



# ARIZONA OHV AMBASSADOR PROGRAM



**A PARTNERSHIP OF AGENCIES AND VOLUNTEERS DEDICATED TO  
ENHANCING MOTORIZED RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES AND MANAGEMENT  
IN ARIZONA.**

*“A partnership of agencies and volunteers  
dedicated to enhancing motorized recreation  
opportunities and management in Arizona”*

*– OHV Ambassador Mission Statement*



# Code of Conduct

- **AN OHV AMBASSADOR SHALL:**
  - BE PROFESSIONAL.
  - RESPECT THE PUBLIC.
  - AVOID CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.
  - MODEL APPROPRIATE OHV SAFETY AND BEHAVIOR.
  - REPORT VIOLATIONS.
  - AVOID NEGATIVE CONFRONTATIONS.
  - MAINTAIN PERSONAL SAFETY.
  - OBEY ALL FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LAWS.



**The Arizona OHV Ambassador Program works in collaboration with and under the direction of resource management agencies to accomplish the following goals:**

- Goal 1: As a recognizable presence on OHV routes
  - a. model appropriate OHV safety and behavior to create a positive image of OHV recreation, and
  - b. promote responsible motorized recreation use and land stewardship
- Goal 2: Support cooperation between OHV users and OHV management agencies.
- Goal 3: Provide OHV information about where to ride, riding safety, etiquette, rules and regulations.
- Goal 4: Assist resource management agencies in monitoring, maintaining, mitigating and improving OHV routes and facilities.

# SELECTION, QUALIFICATIONS, & ROLES OF THE OHV AMBASSADOR



# What is an OHV Ambassador?

- OHV Ambassadors are trained volunteers that help enhance OHV riding opportunities by working cooperatively with Arizona land managers to:
  - PATROL/MONITOR TRAILS
    - in groups of two or more volunteers work with state/federal Law Enforcement Officers to perform these events.
    - monitor motorized areas, roads, trails and facilities (e.g., for trail hazards)
    - provide a recognizable presence on public and state lands and serve as a point of contact for the OHV users
    - model appropriate riding behavior
  - SPECIAL EVENTS and MEET & GREETs
    - provide educational and informative materials to the public
  - SPECIAL PROJECTS
    - Fence repair, sign installation, trail rehab, etc



# Types of OHV Ambassador Duties



# ***OHV Ambassador Qualifications***

- **OHV AMBASSADORS MUST:**
  - Be at least 18 years old.
  - Possess a valid driver's license.
  - Be able to operate an OHV responsibly and safely.
  - Be able to navigate moderate to difficult roads and trails.
  - Complete and keep current all required Ambassador training.
  - Be able to walk over uneven terrain.
  - Be able to lift at least 30 pounds.
  - Wear appropriate safety equipment.
  - Keep and maintain a legal OHV (OHV decal, current vehicle registration, insurance, etc.)

**All Ambassadors complete an application and must pass an agency screening process.**





# ***Firearms Policy***

- The carrying or use of firearms is not included as part of the duties under the OHV Ambassador Program. It is not the purpose or function of this Program for Ambassadors to conduct law enforcement activities.

**Possession or use of firearms during the conduct of OHV Ambassador duties is strictly prohibited.**

Ambassadors must abide by the policies and regulations of the land managing agencies to which they are assigned as volunteers and to whatever stipulations are included in any volunteer agreements signed by those agencies.

# What are some benefits of being an OHV Ambassador?

- Making a positive impact on the future of OHV riding opportunities.
- Opportunity to interact in a positive manner with federal and state land managers and law enforcement officers.
- A greater understanding of the current issues, challenges, and opportunities facing OHV recreation.
- Opportunity for leadership experience and agency training sessions.



**FUN OF SPENDING TIME ON  
ARIZONA'S ROADS AND TRAILS  
WITH FELLOW OHV  
ENTHUSIASTS!**

# Required Training

- Program Overview
- First Aid/CPR
- Policy and Procedures
- Defensive Driving
- Hazmat
- Bloodborne Pathogens
- Communication
  - Chain of command
  - Check in/out procedures
  - Radio use and protocol
  - Reporting procedures
  - Emergency procedures
  - Visitor contacts





# Additional Training

## – Examples Include:

- Map/GPS skills
- Fire season regulations education
- Hunting season regulations education
- Travel management rule considerations
- OHV group presentations
- OHV spark arrestor and general maintenance checks
- Fence cutting repair
- Sign installation
- Invasive species
- Mine shaft safety



# The Volunteer Agreement

- Arizona State Parks/ADOA Volunteer Agreement
- Bureau of Land Management Volunteer Agreement
- US Forest Service Volunteer Agreement
- Arizona Game & Fish Group Volunteer Agreement

# Procedures for Events

- Notification via email, yahoo groups, and forum
- Event Action Plan
  - objective of the day, weather considerations, safety messages, participants involved, location, meeting times, and other pertinent information
- Morning Briefing Session
- Work/Area Assignments
  - Equipment will also be distributed and radio protocol and communication will be covered.
- Debriefing session
  - Equipment will be returned, daily log sheets (see below) will be submitted and discussion of the day's activities will take place.



# Ambassador Monitoring Form

Ambassador: \_\_\_\_\_

LEO/Agency Staff: \_\_\_\_\_

Regional Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Staging Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Approx # of People Staged to ride \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. # of Miles You Traveled On-Site \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_

End Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle \_\_\_\_\_

Type: \_\_\_\_\_

*Items*

*# of cases*

*GPS or Map Location;  
Photo # and Direction*

Informational/people contacts		Average Contact Rating negative, neutral, positive
Trash site; suspicious material		
Abandoned vehicles		(V/in #)
Cut/down fence		
Damaged/down sign		
Trail hazards (e.g., fallen tree, rock slide, severe erosion)		
Abandoned mine shafts/adits		
Unsafe shootings		
Unattended fires		
Riders <18 without helmets		
Riders <18 with helmets		
Riders w/ proper plated vehicle		
Riders w/out proper plated vehicle		

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

**OHV AMBASSADOR TRAIL MONITORING LOG**  
*(include comments on reverse side)*

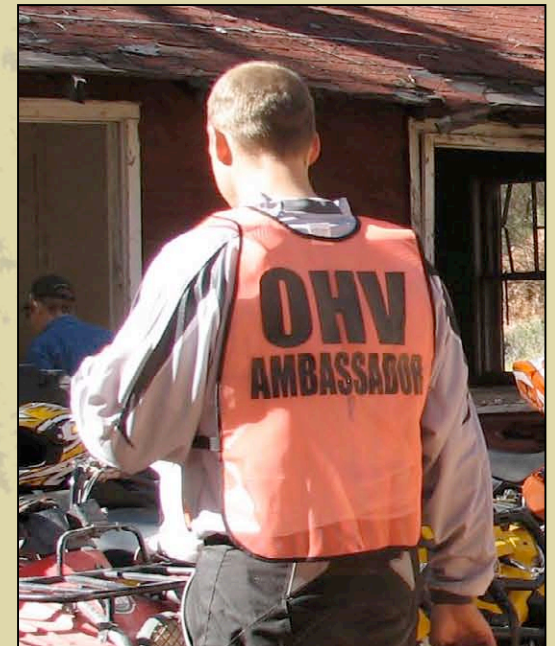
# Equipment

- **OHV Ambassadors will provide:**
  - A personal vehicle in good working condition
  - Safety equipment:
    - DOT approved helmet (*4x4 exempt*)
    - Basic eye protection (*4x4 exempt*)
    - Protective riding gloves (*4x4 exempt*)
  - Proper clothing (*All OHV Ambassadors are to avoid wearing clothing that may be perceived as offensive to others*):
    - Long sleeve shirt (*4x4 exempt*)
    - Pants (*4x4 exempt*)
    - Ankle high boots (*4x4 exempt*)
  - Food and water
  - Sun protection



# Equipment (cont.)

- **Agency staff will provide the following equipment to individual OHV Ambassadors:**
  - Jersey
  - Helmet Skin
  - Vehicle Magnet and/or Sticker
  - Radio
  - Maps
  - Notebook & Writing Utensil
  - Other necessary equipment, as needed





# Agency Participants

- The Arizona Off-Highway Vehicle Program – Arizona State Parks Board (ASPB) and Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD)
- The Off Highway Vehicle Advisory Group (OHVAG)
- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- The United States Forest Service (USFS)
- The Arizona State Land Department (ASLD)
- Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD)
- Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)



# Agency Requirements

- Identify an agency OHVA coordinator to supervise and track the volunteers.
- Identify priority projects/sites where the volunteers will work.
- Assure appropriate volunteer agreements or other agency required paperwork is properly in place.
- Submit required documentation to the OHVA program coordinator.
- Identify LEO's who can work with the volunteers.



# BENEFITS TO THE AGENCY/501c3 CLUB

- Grant package from ASP to include the necessary equipment to conduct Ambassador events.
- Trained assistance to get the program up and running.
- A group of highly trained and motivated volunteers to conduct OHV related work (trail rehab, sign/kiosk installation, resource monitoring, etc)
- Additional boots on the ground.



# Current Ambassador Accomplishments

## (Sept 2007- May 2010)

- 124 Official OHV Ambassador Events Held
- Trail Miles Monitored: 4,154
- Public Contacts: 5,353
- 4 abandoned vehicles have been found and reported to Law Enforcement
- 11 significant public safety trail hazards reported
- 21 trailer (40 Cubic Yard) loads of trash removed from public lands
- 75 abandoned mines have been located and recorded
- ½ mile of fence has been repaired
- 10 fresh cut trails located and reported
- 65 damaged signs found and reported

# Current Ambassador Accomplishments

## (Sept 2007- May 2010)

- Four volunteer trainings have been held since September 2007.
- 86 volunteers have been trained to date. Sixty seven Ambassadors remain in the program.
- Volunteers have donate 3956 volunteer hours (estimated dollar value at **\$79,200**).
- Volunteers have donated approximately 51,000 vehicle miles towards the program (estimated dollar value at **\$25,500**).
- Estimated value of donated time and resources: **\$104,700**.



# QUESTIONS??

“We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give” --Winston Churchill

